



Foreign Affairs Handbook

5 FAH-2 – Telecommunications Handbook

Transmittal Letter: TEL-1

Date: July 1, 1998

VOLUME ISSUANCE

MAJOR CHANGES

1. This is the official *Telecommunications Handbook*, and replaces the old unofficial *Telegraphic Communications Handbook, Parts I and II*, last published in 1982.

2. Please note that this volume is regulatory, and carries the same weight as the Foreign Affairs Manual.

3. In the future, revisions will appear in italics. The italics will be removed the next time the material is updated. Only current changes will appear in italics. Italics provide a historical record of changes.

4. Officers are reminded that Department-issued materials not codified in the *Foreign Affairs Manual* or its supplemental *Foreign Affairs Handbook* series generally have no regulatory validity (see 2 FAM 1115.2).

FILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Destroy any copies of the unofficial *Telegraphic Communications Handbook, Parts I and II* and replace it with the attached handbook, 219 pages including the Transmittal Letter.

2. After inserting the material in a binder, insert this transmittal letter immediately following the TL Checklist, then fill in the entry line for TL:TEL-1, and initial. The order from the front of the Handbook should be:

- (a) Volume Title Page;
- (b) Volume Table of Contents;
- (c) TL Checklist;
- (d) TL: TEL-1;
- (e) Volume Introduction; and
- (f) Chapters H-100 through H-800, with exhibits following their relevant subchapters.

DISTRIBUTION NOTICE

1. The *Foreign Affairs Handbooks* (unclassified) are issued primarily in CD-ROM format. For information on this program, including information regarding public inquiries, contact the INFOEXPRESS Coordinator, A/RPS/MMS/CB, directly. The Coordinator is located in Room 1659 NS, (202) 736-4881, FAX (202) 736-4924. E-Mail via DOSNET: INFOEXPRESS.

2. All posts and offices keeping paper versions of *Foreign Affairs Handbooks* are responsible for maintaining their FAHs on a current basis (see 2 FAM 1116.5), and for ensuring that all copies (including binders) are either retained or returned to A/RPS/DIR if no longer needed. **When returning excess or unused materials include your office/post symbols and inform MMS/PB and your message center if you need to have your distribution reduced** (this generally applies only to time-sensitive paper issuances). A/RPS/MMS/PB, Room 1853, (202) 736-7470, FAX (202) 647-4535, handles all requests for paper copies, including non-Government users (include either fiscal information or payment with request, as appropriate).

3. Use KFAM and AINF TAGS on **all** communications on FAM/FAH issues; direct questions concerning issuance, validity, and updating to A/RPS/DIR. Direct questions concerning substance and interpretations to IRM/AP/IAP/RG, who may be reached at (703) 235-4275.

(IRM/AP/IAP/RG)